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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1874.

The Memphis Appeal suggests that the Democratic State Convention for nominating a candidate for Governor, should not meet before September. This looks to a short canvass, less than two months.

The Mississippi Legislature has passed a law providing that no person should be licensed to sell liquor without first securing the signatures of more than one-half of the men over twenty-one years of age, and of women over eighteen years of age, in the township or municipal corporation where he proposes to open his bar, requesting that such license be granted.

The dead-lock in the Massachusetts Legislature is ended, by the election of Gov. Washburne. It was evident from the beginning that a compromise man would be chosen. The Senator-elect is the present Governor of the State, and a man of experience in Congress. His election will relieve the people of the State, who have become disgusted with the dead-lock of the past two weeks.

We sympathize with the Nashville Banner over its distress on the subject of cremation. We have not seen an issue of the paper since the recent suggestion of burning dead bodies was made in New York, in which the editor did not show deep concern on the subject. It is evident that all the Banner corps, even down to the devil, are alarmed about what is to become of their poor forms when they have put up their last ditch of "independent" news. The old Bourbon Democrats in the State think the same concern over the future of their spiritual parts would be encouraging.

The Senate Select Committee on Transportation held a meeting on Saturday night, and adopted a report, which it is understood will be presented in the Senate on Wednesday. The report is elaborate, embracing a large mass of statistics, and containing a discussion of the alleged defects and abuses of existing systems of transportation, and also the proposed remedies in detail. The remedies discussed are:

First, unregulated competition between railroads.

Second, direct Congressional regulation of freights and fares.

Third, the ownership and control of one or more lines of railroad by the Government.

Fourth, the improvement and creation of water routes. The constitutional questions are fully discussed. This report will be looked for with no small degree of interest.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun gives what the President said on Wednesday, on the subject of the Senate and House currency bills. He does not seem pleased with either. He thinks the former is not such a bill as could be desired, and could not be considered as inflation, while the House bill was good as far as it went, the objectionable feature being that it did not sufficiently provide for responsible redemption. The President will not act hastily, but will carefully consider each provision of the Senate bill before signing or refusing to sign it. As a means of reaching specie payments, he believes in requiring the banks to surrender fifty per cent. of the interest on their bonds, that amount to be kept in the treasury and certificates of deposit issued therefor. The interest paid by the government on the bonds deposited by the banks amount to about \$30,000,000 annually. Fifty per cent. of this would be \$15,000,000. This amount, therefore, he regards, should be retained in the treasury and kept there until it approximates the total of the resources.

He thinks also that the government should contribute its proportion to the same specie redemption fund, which would be about fifteen millions annually. The two would aggregate twenty-five millions annually. In three years this would be seventy-five millions. With this and the specie on hand in the treasury, which ranges from seventy-five to one hundred millions, both the government and the banks would be in condition to resume specie payments. The President is not insensible to the fact that as things now are it is not for the interest of the banks to resume, and for this reason he favors specific legislation defining specie resumption as the fixed aim of the financial policy of the government. Without this he thinks it possible that the banks never would resume, nor allow the government to do so if they can help it. He believes that to compel them to leave the coin interest in the treasury as part of the reserve which they are now required to leave there in legal tenders, would materially aid matters, and would be no special hardship to the banks, except the amount they realized by selling the gold.

AN APPROPRIATE WAY TO CELEBRATE THE CENTENNIAL.

The Baptists in the United States have conceived a plan, and are executing it with a will that is highly commendable, for an appropriate celebration of the Centennial. It is nothing less than a proposition to raise six millions of dollars during that year, for the purpose of endowing educational institutions. This is a large sum, but if the Baptist denominations in America determine to raise it, it can be done easily. For the purpose of carrying out this gigantic measure, a commission has been organized consisting of an executive committee, located at New York, and four advisory committees, located in Boston, Richmond, Chicago and Nashville, all of whom, when sitting together, constitute the Board of Counselors, of the American Baptist Educational Commission. This Board of Counselors have determined to avail themselves of the popular interest that will be awakened by the approaching Centennial Anniversary, to arouse the whole denomination in this country, in favor of a magnificent endowment of their institutions of learning. There are more than a million and a half of Baptists in the United States, many of whom are wealthy and well able to contribute thousands of money to this most laudable enterprise. The plan is to organize a simultaneous movement all over the nation, and the plan meets the approval of all the Advisory Committees. The Nashville Committee held a meeting at Murfreesboro' on the 14th inst., some notice of which has already appeared in these columns. They have determined to establish a great Central University for the Southwest, to be endowed with at least a half million. The committee proposes to raise a million dollars by the Baptists of Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Missouri. With this they will rear a monument to the liberality of American Baptists of the present age that will stand for centuries, and also to encourage institutions already organized and in operation. The Richmond committee will undertake a similar amount in the Southeastern States, while the Chicago and Boston committees will each undertake to raise two millions. We can conceive of no more appropriate way for the Baptists to acknowledge their gratitude for the great prosperity which has attended them as a denomination, in the past hundred years than this. They deserve credit for the conception of the plan, and its consummation will redound to the honor of the Church.

If other denominations would, in a spirit of Christian rivalry, emulate their worthy example, the cause of education would receive such an impetus in 1876 as to make our first centennial, the beginning of a glorious epoch in our country's history.

EXPANSION OR CONTRACTION.

There seems to be a great difference of opinion, at Washington, as to whether the laws recently passed by the House of Representatives add to or contract the volume of currency. It was plainly the intent of both the Senate and House to increase the currency, but the provisions changing the reserves to be held by the banks is experimental, and a special to the Cincinnati Commercial, of the 15th, says:

"Treasurer Spinner, stated this evening that he, in company with other arithmetical financiers of the Treasury Department, had devoted themselves to-day to the work of ascertaining the precise effect that would be produced by the operation of the new currency act as adopted by the House yesterday. He says that their labors resulted in the development of the fact that the law would bring about a contraction of the volume of the currency to the amount of seven millions of dollars. There is no doubt expressed here as to the signing of the bill by the President."

"Congressmen from the West and South are daily receiving applications from their constituents for National bank charters under the new law, but the applications do not by any means cover the authorized increase. Unless this is all taken by the Western and Southern States within two months, the East will be permitted to absorb it, as the law stands."

NEVER in the history of the President's eventful life, has a greater responsibility devolved upon him than now. His political friends are almost evenly divided on a question of great importance—that of the currency. In some parts of the nation, mainly in the East, where men have grown wealthy and are now the owners of princely fortunes, to all outside appearances, the majority of the people are opposed to increasing the volume of currency, and in favor of resuming specie payment at an early day. In the South and West the majority seems to entertain opposite views. An act has passed both Houses of Congress carrying out the views of one class of persons mentioned, and it only awaits the signature of the President to become a law. Eyes from every quarter of the nation are turned upon him, and regarding his action with feelings of the profoundest solicitude. No matter what he may do, he will be criticised by men who are his political friends and denounced and charged with improper motives by his enemies. Under these circumstances it is not difficult to appreciate the delicacy of the high and important task devolving upon the President, or to give him due credit for honest motives, no matter what course he may choose to adopt.

THE ARKANSAS TROUBLE.

The unfortunate condition of affairs in Arkansas serves to render any information about them of great interest to the public. To supply this information we make a brief resume of the history of the Baxter-Brooks contest from the beginning. At the election for Governor in 1872, Eliza Baxter was the regular Republican candidate, and Jas. Brooks was the Liberal Republican and Democratic candidate. The result of the election has ever since been a subject of dispute. Brooks' friends charge that Baxter was elected by fraud, while Baxter's friends claim he received a majority of all the votes cast. The Legislature canvassed the returns and decided that Baxter was elected. He was soon after installed into office as Governor and has ever since been so obeyed and recognized. Soon after the canvass of the votes by the Legislature, Brooks, through the Attorney General of the State, instituted proceedings in the Supreme Court of the State by *quo warranta* to determine the legality of Baxter's exercise of the office. The court decided four to one that it had no jurisdiction of the case, subsequently in the Wheeler-Berry case the court re-affirmed its first decision. This was supposed to be an end of the litigation and to leave Baxter Governor beyond dispute. But a few days ago, in an old suit brought by the Circuit Court of Pulaski county by Brooks before the decisions of the Supreme Court referred to and which suit seems to have been treated as abandoned, the court, in the absence of Gov. Baxter's attorney, and without notice, rendered a decision overruling Baxter's demurrer to the jurisdiction of the court. But instead of allowing the defendant to plead to the declaration and join issue so that the court could hear the case upon its merits, the Circuit Judge entered final judgment, issued a writ and had it executed before Baxter had knowledge that any proceedings in which he was interested were going on. This seems to be, as near as we can gather from the conflicting reports published, a fair statement of the history of the contest. What has occurred since Brooks took forcible possession of the State House our readers know from what has been published in the CHRONICLE.

The political character of the struggle seems to be mixed. Though Baxter was elected as the Republican candidate, the supporters of the two claimants for that office have partially changed grounds. Baxter, while still having a considerable element of the Republicans supporting him, is also supported by the mass of the Democrats. Brooks seems to have the most of the Republican leaders with him now and some Democrats. It is alleged by those who claim to understand the present fight that it grows more out of railroad interests than politics. Gov. Baxter lately opposed some measures brought forward by the railroads by which they hoped to throw upon the State heavy tax burdens. This Baxter opposed, and it is probable that this has much to do with the present contest.

Gov. Baxter is the younger brother of Col. John Baxter of this city. He is a native of North Carolina, but has been for over twenty years a lawyer, Judge and prominent citizen of Arkansas.

HON. SAMUEL MILLIGAN.

Our dispatches of Tuesday convey to our readers the sad news of the death of Hon. Samuel Milligan at Washington. Judge Milligan was born in Greene county, East Tennessee, and at the time of his death was some sixty years of age. He began life a poor boy under many disadvantages, but by application, integrity and an upright honorable life attained to a high position, the duties of which he acceptably discharged. His public life has been long and honorable. He was an officer in the United States Army that served in Mexico. He was a member of the State Senate and if we mistake not he was at one time its presiding officer.

He was active and consistent throughout the fierce struggles that culminated in 1861 over the disruption of the Union, and his influence was uncompromisingly thrown in favor of the Union. At the close of the war he was chosen one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of this State, a position he filled with great credit. He was appointed Judge of the Court of Claims at Washington by President Johnson, in 1868. He held this position at the time of his death. His sickness was protracted, and his death not unexpected to those who have known of his unceasing, faithful labor in the discharge of his duties. He was a man of unblemished private character, having been for years a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church. His public career has been honorable and in every respect creditable. Few men in high position have left a more unsullied reputation than Judge Milligan.

THE IRON AND COAL OF TENNESSEE.

We have received from Col. J. B. Killbrew advanced sheets of the chapters on coal and iron of the forthcoming volume of the report of the Agricultural Bureau on the resources of Tennessee. It presents in a form valuable for reference, interesting facts about the coal and iron resources of Tennessee.

THE BRECKINRIDGE MURDER.

The murder of young Breckinridge by young Anderson at Lebanon, again directs the public to the evil results of intemperance and the uncivilized habit of carrying fire arms. All accounts of that unfortunate affair agree in representing young Anderson as an unusually bright, promising young man when sober, but a perfect terror when drunk. To allow such a man to carry fire arms is as outrageous as to allow nitro-glycerine to be stored in the midst of a city. Our State in Middle, West and East Tennessee, is acquiring an uneenviable reputation for this kind of butchery. It is all the fault of our jurors, courts and legislators. There is no use of hiding the fact, for it is too patent—our laws are deficient of reaching this class of criminals. We need a change in public sentiment—a change that will drive the best men of the State into the jurors' seats, and then work a reform in the mode of administering our criminal laws.

The Lebanon Herald has some vigorous comments on the murder of Breckinridge, which show the need of the reform to which we have so often heretofore alluded. It says:

No definite news of Anderson has been received since Thursday. It is presumed that he left the city early that morning. A mild pretence of attempting his arrest was made during the day, but it was so utterly ludicrous—so transparent an effort merely to keep up appearances—that it was simply the boldest of farces. Indeed, the part taken by the authorities in this matter has been, from the beginning, anything but creditable to them or to the good name of our city and county. A foul and atrocious murder was committed on the Public Square, and the perpetrator remained within the corporate limits for hours afterwards, leaving finally at his leisure without being arrested. An inoffensive, mild-mannered gentleman, a stranger in our midst, was shot down like a dog, and his corpse lay in our city for thirty-six hours, without the slightest pretence of an inquest having been made. We do not know where the fault lies—but we do know there has been gross and unpardonable negligence in this matter. It will not be long, if we continue at the present rate, before Wilson county justice will be a bye-word and a reproach throughout the land—if, indeed, such is not already the case. It is certainly already true that the highest grades of crime can be perpetrated almost with impunity, and no remark is more frequently heard than the assertion that a Wilson county jury never punishes a murderer. This must be stopped.

THE Athens Post, alluding to the lecture of Gen. Wilder at that place, together with other lectures that have been delivered there, adds this remark:

Our people appear to have but little taste for literary entertainments. Only the fewest number will walk across the street, of a pleasant evening, to be present at "a feast of reason and a flow of soul," while the large majority would undertake to swim the Tennessee at full tide if old John Robinson and his Circus were advertised to exhibit on the opposite bank. In using the expression "our people," we don't refer exclusively to Athens.

Brother Ivins is justifiable in this gentle hint to "our people." He is right in not referring to the people of Athens alone. His timely remark applies to every community in Tennessee, and quite a number of other States. People will turn out in all sorts of weather, and pay their money to see something at which they can laugh, but they never think of patronizing a lecture from which they gain real instruction. They will patronize a troupe of blackguards, not one of whom would they invite into their houses fit as associates for their families, but they can't attend literary lectures.

Our dispatches of Friday morning tell us there has been another "affair of honor," near Bay St. Louis, in the State of Mississippi. This is a favorite resort for the hot bloods of New Orleans, whose honor is so much injured occasionally, that nothing will restore it but gun-powder and human blood. The refined arts of the code are frequently practiced thereabouts, and occasionally one of the participants, loses his life. In the case reported this morning, it is said the whole party was arrested. We hardly know what would be the best manner of disposing of this lot, which is evidently composed of the "small fry" faction of that class usually so scrupulous on the "honor" question. We presume the law, if strictly enforced, would incarcerate them for a time in a State prison. But the most expeditious and least expensive way to dispose of them would be to drown them, like so many blind puppies, in the adjacent bay. And we think this course would be effective in restraining others of that ilk in engaging in a like imbecile undertaking.

Whiskey vs. Water.

The Chattanooga Commercial of Saturday says: We learned last evening that Mr. John Dady and his team were drowned yesterday in the back water on the Shallow Ford road, between here and Missionary Ridge. Mr. Dady had brought a load of wood to the city, coming around the water, but after disposing of it he procured some fire-water, as he usually does, and proceeded home. Being emboldened by the effects of drink he attempted to go the accustomed road, which was now overflowed, and was drowned.

Vermont sheep are noted all over the country, and large flocks are constantly shipped to the western States. A few days ago a flock was sent from Pittsford to Washington Territory, a distance of nearly four thousand miles.

GREENEVILLE NEWS.

The Crusade—The Heavy Rains—An Improvement.

GREENEVILLE, April 20th, 1874.
Special Correspondence of the Chronicle.

Arriving in Greenville on the 4th of p. m. train Saturday our ears were greeted with a song of praise from the comfortable quarters of the crusaders, and we were at once convinced that the war on the saloons in this town has not ceased. Mrs. Ward could be seen sitting at the door of her grocery, but no customers were visible. We called on the ladies, and found them in excellent spirits, rejoicing over the success of the day, as they obtained seven good names to the pledge. They have now quite comfortable quarters—a small but comfortable frame building nearly opposite Mrs. Ward's place, with windows in every direction, so that no one can pass them unseen. They have arranged, in military style, to have regular rallies at both the saloons, and each lady knows just when her time comes and to what post of duty she must hasten.

On the day of the circus quite a desperate effort was made by the opposition to the temperance work to break down the influence of the ladies, but their efforts resulted in a failure. It is true a number of men were intoxicated, but we are told the number was by far the least ever known on a "circus day," while on the other hand victory crowned the efforts of the ladies in so far that they received a large number of signers to the pledge.

Saturday was a damp, unpleasant day, just such a day as many would select to get drunk, yet in walking through the town that evening for over two hours, we failed to find a single individual who showed any evidence that he had been imbibing too freely. This certainly must be encouraging to the citizens of Greenville, as well as the noble ladies who brought about this result.

The union services, or prayer meetings are still kept up with unabated interest, a change being made from one church to another every week. There is much good being accomplished in that way. With Saturday closed the tenth week of the crusade, and the ladies still seem determined to hold out and conquer. The saloonists, on the other hand seem as equally determined not to give up.

The sanitary condition of Greenville is a matter of some conversation, and it is claimed that it is not as good as it was last spring. Many citizens fear, unless prompt steps are taken to clean up Greenville, will again suffer with cholera this year. We presume, however, the good people of the place will take hold of the matter.

Mr. M. P. Reeve has just completed a large and conveniently arranged hotel, immediately at the depot, and the house has been thrown open to guests. It is to be known as the "Reeve House," and from what we can learn is destined to be the hotel of Greenville. The table is excellent, the rooms are comfortable and clean, the waiters are polite and accommodating, while the proprietor is a gentleman. By the new schedule on the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroad this has been made a breakfast and supper station, and we predict the traveling public will be well pleased with the "Reeve House."

The farmers in this county are generally far behind with their work, on account of the heavy rains; yet no other serious damage is reported. The same may be said of all the farms along the line of railroad. On the river considerable damage has been done, and much wheat was destroyed by the high water. In fact, we are told, there is scarcely an acre of wheat on river bottom land throughout Upper East Tennessee which has not been damaged more or less by the freshet.

R. A. B.

EAST TENNESSEE NEWS.

Interesting Summary of Events from Our Exchanges.

The Bristol News speaks encouragingly of the growth of that enterprising place, which our readers will be glad to read:

Mr. C. H. Lewis returned a few days since from Rhode Island, where he purchased three large new carding machines, one large picker, two jacks of 200 spindles each, a card grinder, wool duster, one gig for napping cloth, five looms, one card lathe, one spooler, one reel, one fulling mill, four latest improved looms, one broad loom, shears and all necessary accompaniments and auxiliaries for the complete conducting of his woolen factory. These are all of the most improved and excellent character now known in the world.

The Jonesboro' Echo tells of the repeated robberies that have been made on the trains of the railroad. Suspicion attached to Looney Washington, a track hand. Search was made, and it says, there was found in his possession several sacks of coffee, containing 240 pounds, 525 combs, 270 suspenders, 12 plugs of fine tobacco, 271 flour sacks, a car key, 50 pods of snuff, and several other small articles.

The Athens Post says the wheat crop of Meigs and McMinn counties promises better than ever known, and that the acreage in the latter county is immense. The same paper says:

"Mr. Wm. L. Rhat, of the Savannah Farm, Polk county, is now milking between fifty and sixty cows, and manufacturing large quantities of butter and cheese. The Savannah is on the Hiwassee river, near the gap of the mountain, and is one of the most valuable pieces of property in East Tennessee."

Nice for the Girl.

A correspondent of a city paper in New York writes very handsomely about "Engaged Young Ladies." Our Knoxville girls may know something about it. Here is what he says:

"Engaged Young Ladies" are done by a writer in the Jewish Messenger, who says: "So nice, is it not, to be engaged?" Every morning her young man calls upon her on his way to his office, kisses her, and presents her with a fresh rose, so emblematic of herself; and every evening he calls again, kisses her, and bestows upon her a new novel and a dainty bouquet. Then those heavenly evenings in the parlor, with the gas dimly burning, the old folks asleep, that horrid brother in the theater or the club, the teasing sister studying her lessons in her bed-room—they two alone in their happiness; was ever such bliss expected when she used to talk to her school-mates about her future?"